



FIRST THINGS FIRST

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South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

Developmental and Sensory Screening Committee Summary

Director Jonathon provided a brief history and background on the strategy. The Council approved funding in SFY13, and currently the strategy is undeveloped. Based on data from the *2012 South Phoenix Regional Needs and Assets Report*, the following are unmet needs identified in the region:

1. Utilization and implementation of preventive health care, outreach education and health screenings (oral, physical, developmental)
2. Lack of specialists in early childhood development and health workforce to insure the healthy social-emotional development of young children, and
3. Lack of understanding and information on the importance of early childhood development and health and inadequate support by the community around early childhood development and health efforts

Review of Needs for Children with Developmental Delays - Jonathon referenced and reviewed the “FTF Standards of Practice” for Developmental and Sensory Screening Services. A discussion was held regarding the utilization and implementation of screening tools, Parents’ Assessment of Developmental Status (PEDS) and Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQ). These are both evidenced based screening and assessment tools that are parent friendly and have validity and reliability testing. Dr. Merk also provided some history and background on the current screenings in school districts for 3 to 5 year olds. She stated no vision screening is administered in schools. She also specified schools do not screen Birth to 5 children. There is OAE Train the Trainer available for early childhood professionals (preferably for efficiency) who wish to be trained. Dr. Merk recommending purchasing mobile hearing screening equipment which is also not costly.

Identify Stakeholders and Partners - The Committee agreed to identify and invite possible South Phoenix Regional stakeholders to the next Committee meeting to collect input on how partnerships and collaboration can be addressed to implement this strategy effectively across the region. Possible invitees/inter-agencies that were identified: child care provider(s), Early/Headstart, CPLC, ChildFind (Isaac, Murphy, and Fowler School Districts), Tanner Community Development, AzEIP, Project Launch, and Families and/or Parents. Dr. Merk will also invite Dr. Cathy Martinez to facilitate this dialogue at next meeting. A Spanish interpreter will also be invited by Member Jeremy Woods.

Discussion and Review Development Plan, Timeline and Next Steps Dr. Merk requested invitee names and contact information be forwarded to FTF (Rosemary or Jonathon) no later than COB, Wednesday, March 6th. FTF will send meeting information to invitees by COB, Friday, March 8th. Director Gonzales and Dr. Merk will draft a strategy worksheet and implementation recommendations to present to the Council April 30th. The strategy will be implemented July 1, 2013 (SFY14).